the Panchayat had recommended the work to be necessary.

(*c*) There were representations for and against this connection road.

(*d*) Yes; Rs. 300.

(*e*) No.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know, Sir, why did it happen that the work was not taken up in 1112?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Now that this matter has been brought to my notice, I will take necessary measures. This took place in 1112. It is only when this question was put to me that I came to know of it. I will rectify the mistake as early as possible.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Thank you.

TEAK POLES—USE IN CONSTRUCTING TANKS

27. Mr. C. V. Iyyu*(Kunnamkulam):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have considered the usefulness of using teak poles of the type of the electric lamp posts used by the Trichur Municipality in the place of cocoanut tree trunks for the construction of village tanks under the Panchayats in sandy areas of the State;

(*b*) whether they have made any such tanks anywhere in the State;

(*c*) whether they will be pleased to experiment this in the improvement of Sankarankulam in Kandanisseri village in Talappilli Taluk and also in some other villages in other sandy or littoral areas in the State for which improvement has been sanctioned in the budget for the current year?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Government have considered about this. In littoral (sandy) tracts cocoanut trees are available in plenty and at the same time are very cheap. They also very well serve the purpose. Comparatively speaking cocoanut trees serve better in these areas than teak for this purpose from the point of view of cost. If teak is used, there is also the danger of its being removed.

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(*b*) No.

(*c*) Yes, if it is found to be cheaper and more advantageous in any particular locality.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* In answer to sub-division (*a*) it is stated "there is also the danger of its being removed". Cannot the Government find out some method to permanently fix up these poles?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Nothing can be permanent.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* I know that teak poles will be costlier. But the cocoanut trees get decayed in two or three years.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The point is this. We can easily get these cocoanut trunks in the littoral areas. But to bring down teak poles will be very difficult. That is why cocoanut trunks are used in these places.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know what is the difference in prices of the cocoanut trees and the teak poles?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* There is a great difference, because in the case of teak we will have to get them down from distant places.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* The life of the teak poles will be not less than 20 or 30 years.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I am told cocoanut trees also will stand for a number of years. Further they are cheaper.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* But the question of cheapness will not hold good when we consider that the cocoanut trees will decay in 3 years while teak poles will stand for 20 to 30 years.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* If 3 cocoanut trees stand for 30 years and 1 teak pole for 20 years and the price of 3 cocoanut trees is equal to 1 teak pole, then, we will resort to the cocoanut trees.

ROAD IN KARIKAD VILLAGE—DELAY IN OPENING OF

28. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Government had taken all the steps necessary to open a road as early as 1113 through Survey No. 443 of Karikad Village connecting the Muslim Mosque in Kotta Desam in Karikad Village with the Palanji-Akkikavu P. W. D. road;

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